REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-30 are pending in the present application with claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 11, 12, 14-17, 20-27, 29 and 30 having been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-3, 6, 11-13, 16, 21, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Shibata et al. in view of Kanazawa et al., and the other claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) using Shibata et al. as a primary reference and other references as secondary references.

Claims 1-3, 6, 11-13, 16, 21, 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Shibata et al. in view of Kanazawa et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended independent claim 1 includes a combination of steps and is directed to a method for processing image data in an interactive media player. The method includes receiving a plurality of image sources to be output on a same display screen from at least one of an interactive recording medium and external server, and converting a bit depth of at least a first image source to another bit depth so that the first image source has a same bit depth as a second image source. Independent claims 11 and 21 include similar features in a varying scope.

These features are supported at least by Figures 4 and 5 and the corresponding description in the specification. For example, Figure 5 illustrates a plurality of image sources to be output on a same display screen from at least one of an interactive recording medium and external server. Figure 4 illustrates different bit depths for different types of image sources. The present invention advantageously converts a bit depth of at least a first image source to another

bit depth so that a first image source has a same bit depth as a second image source. Thus, as shown in Figure 5, image sources 1 and 2 are displayed having a same bit depth in the same display screen.

On the contrary, in Shibata et al., a previous image, which is stored in the frame memory 2 and converted to 6-bit data, is re-converted to 8-bit image data, which has the same number of bits with the current image data. That is, in Shibata et al., the previous image data is stored with a fewer number of bits than a current image data and is then re-converted in order to correct the liquid crystal applied voltage corresponding to the current image data from the relationship between the current image data and the previous image data. Thus, the previous image data is only used to correct a driving signal for the current image data, but is not output on the same display screen as the current image data. Therefore, Shibata et al. does not teach or suggest receiving a plurality of image sources to be output on a same display screen and then converting a bit depth of at least a first image source to another bit depth so that the first image source has a same bit depth as a second image source.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claims 1, 11 and 21 and each of the claims depending therefrom are allowable.

Further, it is respectfully submitted the other 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections have also been overcome as the claims rejected therein are dependent claims, and the additional references also do not teach or suggest the features recited in the corresponding independent claims.

Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact David A. Bilodeau, Reg. No.

42,325, at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: December 11, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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